MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

14 JANUARY 1983

Lebanon-Israel Negotiations

Agreement on Agenda -- Israel and Lebanon agreed on a six-point agenda for further negotiations during their 13 January talks in Qiryat Shemona, Jerusalem and Beirut radios reported. Both radios noted that the topics to be discussed are: ending the state of war; security arrangements; a framework for mutual relations, including "liaison"; withdrawal of all foreign forces; withdrawal of Israeli forces, and possible guarantees. The delegation also agreed on several footnotes to the agenda, including the point that each side may propose additional subject for discussion and that each side's agreement to discuss each agenda topic is not a commitment that those topics will ultimately be accepted, Jerusalem radio reported.

Once agreement was reached on the agenda, the delegations began discussing how to end the state of war, Beirut and Jerusalem radios revealed. Although earlier reports from both radios indicated that the agenda topics would be discussed simultaneously, Jerusalem radio termed the discussion "the first item on the agenda," while Beirut described the discussion as "one of the items on the agenda."

Habib Proposal -- Presidential envoy Philip Habib has proposed that foreign forces begin withdrawing from Lebanon on 12 February, Jerusalem radio revealed. In a related development the Lebanese Government has reportedly complained that Israel is establishing sophisticated early warning stations in Jabal al-Baruk which will be capable of monitoring military movements from the Gulf to the Sinai, Jerusalem radio revealed. Lebanon is concerned that such an "enormous investment" indicates that Israel intends to remain on Jabal al-Baruk even after the IDF withdraws, the radio added.

Al-Wazzan Comment -- Following a political discussion chaired by Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan described the results of the 13 January talks as "satisfactory," but cautioned that the issue of withdrawal "can absolutely not be subjected to bargaining," according to Beirut radio reports. The prime minister noted that the Lebanese delegation will present a timetable for withdrawals at the next round of negotiations but will be prepared to discuss any subject raised, Beirut radio reported.

Israeli Reaction -- Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir pointed out that while there is currently no talk of "full peace" between Israel and Lebanon, Israel believes that agreement will be reached on each agenda topic because this would be in the interest of both countries, Jerusalem radio reported. Shamir asserted that the talks were held in a "friendly" atmosphere and denied earlier reports that the Lebanese delegation had threatened to leave the talks, the radio added. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon praised the agreement as a "real breakthrough," because the agenda contains the "essential" points, another Jerusalem report noted. Sharon told IDF Radio that he believes Israel and Lebanon will reach an agreement on both security and normalization, which will "certainly bring peace" in the future.

Al-Jumayyil-Husayn Talk -- President al-Jumayyil telephoned Jordan's King Husayn to brief him on the progress of the negotiations, according to an Amman television report. A delegation from the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies Foreign Relations Committee arrived in Amman earlier in the day to discuss the Lebanese situation with Jordanian officials, Amman and Beirut radios reported.

Tripoli Security -- Steps to restore life to normal in Tripoli have accelerated after internal security forces succeeded in separating combatants in areas of tension, Beirut radio reported. The radio added that a new security force from Beirut was positioned in Tripoli's sensitive areas. Following a meeting of the Northern Coordination Committee, former Prime Minister Rashid Karami affirmed that guarantees are available to establish security and prevent a recurrence of an eruption in the situation, the radio noted.

PLO-Soviet Communique

Talks between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and Soviet leaders took place in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality, and mutual understanding, TASS and Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported citing a communique issued following the "official business visit" by a PLO delegation to the USSR 11-13 January. 'Arafat noted that the PLO favors the establishment of "relations of confederation" on a voluntary basis between Jordan and the independent Palestinian state after its creation, the communique stated. The Soviet side showed an "attitude of understanding" toward the PLO leadership's position, the communique added. Analyzing Soviet-Palestinian relations, the two sides expressed satisfaction with their high level of development and pledged to further consolidate friendly cooperation, the communique stressed. The two sides agreed to continue regular contacts, exchanges of views, and coordination of actions at various levels on questions of mutual interest, particularly concerning the Middle East situation and the Palestinian problem, the communique concluded.

Commenting on 'Arafat's visit to the USSR, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio noted its importance, particularly after the heroic steadfastness of the Palestinian revolution in Beirut and Lebanon. The visit is "particularly important" because it follows the election of a new CPSU leadership, the radio stressed.

Israel

Border Incidents -- Dozens of Egyptian attempts to penetrate Israel through the Sinai were recently foiled, Jerusalem radio reported citing a senior IDF officer. "Hundreds" of hand grenades were confiscated from the infiltrators, the radio added. The officer stated the IDF is improving its means of preventing penetrations, the radio noted.

Television Broadcasts -- Israel is installing VHF broadcasting equipment in Tiberias and other areas to overcome reception problems in receiving Israeli television broadcasts in the Jordan Valley, the Tel Aviv paper 'AL HAMISHMAR reported citing Communications Minister Mordekhay Tzipori. The root of the problem appears to be a lack of communication between Israel and Jordan over allocating television channels, the paper added.

Iraq

Iraq and Bulgaria agreed to expand long-range bilateral economic and technical cooperation, according to a statement broadcast by Baghdad radio following the 11-13 January visit by Bulgarian Council of Ministers Chairman Grisha Filipov. The statement added that the Iraqis briefed the Bulgarians on the armed conflict with Iran. The Bulgarian side stressed the need to take swift measures to stop the fighting and resolve disputed issues through negotiations, the statement declared.

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 010 *14 January 1983*

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW 1

AFGHANISTAN

ICRC Accepts Prisoner; Kidnapped Adviser Shot [AFP] C 1
'Counterrevolutionaries' Crushed in Provinces C 1
Border Tribes To Prevent Rebels From Crossing C 1
Briefs: Cooperation With GDR; Agreement With USSR; Religious Leaders to USSR C 2

INDIA

Rohini-560 Rocket Successfully Launched 12 Jan E 1
Series To Follow E 1
TIMES OF INDIA Examines Gandhi Election Losses [7 Jan] E 1
Assam Government Invokes Act To Prohibit Strikes E 3
Briefs: SRV, Sri Lanka Contracts; Supreme Court Resignation E 3

PAKISTAN

Plan for Joint Islamic Ventures Prepared [DAWN 12 Jan] F 1
Rural Development Minister Receives PRC Envoy [DAWN 12 Jan] F 3
Politician Expresses Concern Over Afghans [DAWN 12 Jan] F 3
Three Tribal Elders Released in Landikotal [DAWN 12 Jan] F 3
Baluchistan Development Allocated Detailed [DAWN 12 Jan] F 3
Uranium Deposits Reportedly Discovered [DAWN 12 Jan] F 4

IRAN

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,182 I 1
29 Iraqis Killed, Wounded in Bakhtaran Fighting I 1
Kordestan Amnesty Urged; Majlis Speaker Cited I 2
Volunteers Sent to Kordestan From Ardabil I 2
Villages Cleared of 'Counterrevolutionaries' I 3
MKO Says '15 Lackeys Annihilated' in Kordestan [Free Voice of Iran] I 3
Majlis Session Debates 'Brain Drain,' Oil Sales I 3
Briefs: Babol Governor I 4

ICRC ACCEPTS PRISONER; KIDNAPPED ADVISER SHOT

OW132354 Hong Kong AFP in English 2322 GMT 13 Jan 83

[By Michel Martin-Roland]

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, Jan. 13 (AFP) -- A young Soviet Army sergeant captured by the Afghanistan resistance was handed over here today to delegates of the International Committee on the Red Cross (ICRC) and put on a plane for Geneva.

Sgt. Yuriy Ivanovich, a 19-year old radio engineer, is the eighth Soviet soldier to be handed over by the Afghan resistance in 3 years of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Under a Soviet-Pakistani-ICRC agreement, Sgt. Ivanovich will be held for 2 years in Switzerland before being transferred to the Soviet authorities. In Switzerland, ICRC sources here said, he will be held in a mountain farm with his seven other comrades.

He is said to have been captured near Kabul in the middle of last month and to have arrived here last weekend after a nearly 3-week march.

A spokesman of the "Afghanistan Islamic National Front" (AINF) told reporters Sgt. Ivanovich was being handed over to the ICRC "to show that we treat Soviet soldiers as prisoners of war and that we are not bandits."

Meanwhile, an Afghan fruit wholesaler who arrived in Peshawar from Kabul supplied further details about last week's kidnapping in Mazar-e Sharif, northern Afghanistan, of 15 or 16 Soviet advisers, reported here by a Western diplomatic source.

The merchant said two of those seized were women. The kidnapping occured as the advisers were driving in a minibus in the city center on the afternoon of January 3. They were taken to the countryside, where one of the advisers, a man, was shot dead a few hours later when he tried to run off.

'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES CRUSHED' IN PROVINCES

LD130042 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] Security forces in the (Parchawa) area in industrial Baghran recently crushed a number of counterrevolutionaries who were disrupting the life of the working people of that area; they seized from them various weapons and a quantity of ammunition.

According to another report from Herat Province, another group of these elements, which was robbing travelers along the Herat-Islam Qal'eh highway, was crushed by the border guards who captured four of them along with their weapons.

BORDER TRIBES TO PREVENT REBELS FROM CROSSING

LD140644 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The wave of indignation and repulsion against Afghan counterrevolution is rising daily across the border.

Reports reaching BAKHTAR information agency from across the border state that the leaders and elders of (Moman) consisting the tribes of (Halikzai, Sha'ifi, and Hasmat-Khel) recently held a tribal meeting in (?Kandow). At this meeting, speeches were delivered about the criminal and inhumane actions of Afghan counterrevolutionaries. It also was decided that in the regions of (Kotal-e Khatish) up to (Kotal-e Gostery) which extends to (Gormandy), the rebels, these corrupt elements, will not be allowed to cross and go to Afghanistan for sabotage. Those who leave the country for Pakistan also will not be allowed to cross these regions. According to the decision of the various tribes of (Moman), posts will be set up between (Kotal-e Khatish) and (Kotal-e Gostery) to prevent the rebels from moving.

BRIEFS

COOPERATION WITH GDR -- A cooperation agreement between the DRA Journalist Unions and the GDR Association of Journalists was signed today in Kabul. Under the agreement, valid from 1983 to 1985, lecturers from the GDR will come to Afghanistan to teach short-term courses in radio, television, newspapers, journals, and so on. [Kabul in Pashto and Dari to Europe 1730 GMT 6 Jan 83 LD]

AGREEMENT WITH USSR -- An agreement for constructing and expanding the reservoir of oil products in Pol-e Khomri to a capacity of 6,000 cubic meters was signed today in Kabul between the DRA's department of sugar and oil products and the economic counsular of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul. [Excerpt] [Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 6 Jan 83 LD]

RELIGIOUS LEADERS TO USSR -- Kabul, Jan 8 (BAKHTAR) -- A group of fifty-two elders and religious leaders of Ghowr Bamian, Vardak, Seperwan Konarha, Helmand and Qandahar Provinces left here for the Central Asian republics of the Soviet Union yesterday. They will visit the Islamic centers of that country. [Text] [Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 10 Jan 83 LD]

ROHINI-560 ROCKET SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED 12 JAN

BK131716 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] According to the United News of India a Rohini-560 rocket has been successfully launched from the Vikram Sarabhai Space Center at Thumba near Trivandrum.

Director of the center Dr V.R. Gowariker said the rocket, with the technological payload developed by the center, was launched yesterday. This is to mainly evaluate various aerodynamical and structural parameters. The details are awaited.

Series To Follow

BK140324 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] V.R. Gowariker, director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Center at Thumba, has said that the Rohini-560 has performed well and good data has been obtained. He said the data would be analyzed and processed at the center. It may be recalled that the rocket was successfully launched on Wednesday. The rocket, which achieved an altitude of 330 km, was tracked by both Sriharikota and Thumba ranges. Rohini-560 would be followed up by a series of launchings of other Rohini sounding rockets.

TIMES OF INDIA EXAMINES GANDHI ELECTION LOSSES

BK120600 Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 7 Jan 83 p 1

[Front page comment: "Political Harakiri"]

[Text] The Congress (I) has committed political harakiri in Andhra and it has come fairly close to doing so in Karnataka. There is no other way to describe the manner in which it has conducted its affairs in its erstwhile southern strongholds and the nemesis that has now overwhelmed it.

The people in these states gave the party their trust in March 1978 when it was barely a few weeks old. It wantonly betrayed their trust. In Andhra they witnessed a procession of thoroughly corrupt, incompetent and do-nothing chief ministers and ministers and in Karnataka the replacement of the relatively more respected Mr Devraj Urs and his team by Mr Gundu Rao and his cronies of doubtful repute.

The people in the two states had returned the Congress (I) to power five years ago because they had confidence in Indiramma (Mrs Gandhi) and because they had felt sorry that she was being persecuted by the Janata government. Having put her on the come-back trail which finally culminated in the prime minister's office in New Delhi in January 1980, they expected her to redeem her promises. She failed them. So when she went to them again this time to ask for another chance, they were not willing to oblige. Their deafening "no" will send shock waves throughout the country. It speaks for the quality of men who ruled the two states in her name that most of the ministers have been defeated. What an indictment.

No one can be wholly surprised by the ruling party's debacle in Andhra, though so overawed have some of us been by Mrs Gandhi's record as a vote-gatherer that we expected it to scrape through with a small majority or at least emerge as the single largest party capable of forming the government with the help of defectors from other organisations.

There, the challenge posed by Mr. N.T. Rama Rao was patent. The matinee idol-turned-politician had been drawing large and enthusiastic crowds for months while Congress (I) leaders had continued to squabble among themselves and tarnish such reputation as they possessed. Thus, attention was focussed on Andhra. That is perhaps one reason why the near rout of the Congress (I) in Karnataka has come as a surprise to most people outside the state. Mr Gundu Rao was not known either for integrity or ability or even tact. The names of some of his colleagues in the government and the party were a byword for corruption. Even so, the impression had spread that Mr Gundu Rao would be able to manage things and then perhaps make room for someone else as chief minister in return for a comfortable berth in New Delhi. This view has turned out to be not well founded. This time Mrs Gandhi has been right about the press. It has been out of touch with the reality in Karnataka. But so apparently has she been. Surprise or no surprise, the debacle of the Congress (I) in Karnataka is a fact and it does not require a great pundit to predict that the consequences for the country as a whole will be far-reaching.

If the Congress (I) had won the election in the two southern states or even scraped through, the credit would have justly gone to Mrs. Gandhi. She was its principal campaigner and she did not spare herself in the least. Indeed, the candidates asked for support mainly in her name. They had no other claim to the indulgence of the people. So she must carry the burden of the defeat. She will be widely held responsible for it on other counts as well. She did precious little to check the precipitate descent into corruption and arbitrariness on the part of men and women who ruled the states in her behalf. She might have failed even if she had tried. For it was not easy to enforce norms in the Congress (I). It was a product of the second and more disastrous split in the Congress and the induction of the strange crowd Mr Sanjay Gandhi had gathered around him during the emergency. As such, it could at best be an unruly praetorian guard for Mrs Gandhi and her younger son during the Janata rule. It was not qualified to function as a ruling party. But Mrs. Gandhi did not even try. She let matters drift. The result is there for everyone to see.

Mrs Gandhi has had enough time even if it is accepted that she was not quite free to act in Karnataka and Andhra before January 1980 when she got back into the office of prime minister. Three years is a long enough time to make an attempt to put the party on a reasonably sound basis. She cannot claim to have taken any significant step in that direction. She admitted some of her old Congress colleagues into the party only to keep them on the sidelines, making it appear that she was not willing to trust them. There has also been no dearth of warnings from friendly quarters. She has ignored these consistently and let things drift.

The drift helped expose the true nature of the Congress (I) -- a rabble bound by no code or loyalty, a collection of individuals out to feather their own nests whatever the cost to the nation. Unprincipled dissidence was bound to break out in such a party if the leader was seen to be indecisive. And such unprincipled dissidence has been breaking out in one state after another. Some of these self-styled "loyal soldiers", in Maharashtra, for instance, did not mind raising the banner of revolt when the party was fighting for survival in Andhra and Karnataka. This was a stab in the leader's back and the leader had no choice but to ignore it. Some wages these of the drift!

This is the fourth great crisis Mrs Gandhi faces -- the first in 1969 when the organisational bosses challenged her leadership, the second in 1975 when the Allahabad high court annulled her election to parliament and the third in March 1977 when she lost the election to the Lok Sabha. She has fought back successfully in the past and can do so again. But this time the challenge is in some ways more serious, and it is more insidious. It is more serious because never before has the instrument at her disposal -- the Congress (I) -- been less adequate, and it is more insidious because the challenge comes from the rot in her own camp. She has still two more years to fulfill the pledge she gave to the people when she sought a new mandate in January 1980 -- to provide a government that works. And government does not mean only the one at the centre, though that too is not a model of efficiency or honesty, but those in the states as well. Most of the Congress (I) state governments have had a pathetic record so far. They must improve considerably to make an impression on the people, which is necessary if the slide towards the eclipse of the only truly national party is to be reversed.

ASSAM GOVERNMENT INVOKES ACT TO PROHIBIT STRIKES

BK131644 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] The Assam Government today by a notification under the Essential Services Maintenance Act of 1981 prohibited strike in any service connected with the election in the state.

A state government spokesman told our Gauhati correspondent that a number of intending candidates have collected nominations and other papers from the electoral officers.

Meanwhile, the overall situation in the state remained peaceful barring a few cases of arson. No untoward incident has been reported from any part of the state.

Chief Secretary Ramesh Chandra told our All India Radio Gauhati correspondent this evening that the Communist Party of India-Marxist office in Dibrugarh was set on fire by some miscreants. A few attempts of gherao [sit-in] to intimidate some intending candidate for the election were also reported from some places. But these were foiled by the prompt and timely intervention of the police, the chief secretary said.

BRIEFS

SRV, SRI LANKA CONTRACTS -- India has secured a 140 million rupee contract from Vietnam for the supply of diesel locomotives. The contract was signed in Hanoi by the public sector Projects and Equipment Corporation of India and the Machino-Import of Vietnam. India has also bagged a $2.25 million contract from Sri Lanka railways for the maintenance of rolling stock and track. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Jan 83 BK]

SUPREME COURT RESIGNATION -- Justice Baharul Islam of the Supreme Court has resigned. No reason has been given in the resignation letter addressed to the president. The government has issued a notification to this effect. Justice Islam is due to retire next month. According to agency reports, Justice Islam has expressed his desire to enter public life. Justice Islam had been a member of the Rajya Sabha for 10 years from 1962. [Text] [Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jan 83 BK]

PLAN FOR JOINT ISLAMIC VENTURES PREPARED

GF140752 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] A set of guidelines and modalities for the implementation of joint venture projects in Islamic states were prepared at a four-day meeting of the "ad hoc working group for industrial investment", which has been charged with working out detailed proposals aimed at strengthening and institutionalising economic links between organisation of the Islamic Conference [OIC] member states.

The ad hoc working group report regarding its four-day session at Karachi will be considered by its parent body, the "task force for industrial cooperation among Muslim states," at its meeting in Islamabad from March 5 to 7 next.

Briefing newsmen about the results of the ad hoc working group meeting, Dr Aftab Ahmad Khan, additional secretary, Federal Ministry of Industry (who chaired the session as the representative of the host country, Pakistan), explained the background of the moot.

He recalled that the industries ministers from 41 Muslim nations, meeting under the aegis of the OIC in Islamabad in February, 1982 had decided to take concrete steps aimed at strengthening mutual economic bonds and creating regular channels and an institutional framework for this purpose.

This meeting -- officially termed "first ministerial consultation for economic cooperation among Muslim states" -- formed two bodies to implement its decisions and frame suggestions for achieving closer economic cooperation throughout the Muslim world.

These two bodies are:

-- The four-member follow-up committee, consisting of Pakistan as chairman, two vice-chairmen from Syria and Gabon, and a rapporteur from Sudan. Representation on this committee will be at the ministerial level, i.e. industries ministers from the above four countries.

-- The "task force for industrial cooperation among Muslim countries," headed by the industries minister of Pakistan (Mr Elahi Bu Soomro). Other members are heads of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), Islamic Economic Chamber (IEC), Ankara Centre for Statistical, Economic and Social Research, Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Research (Dhaka), and the Islamic Foundation for Science and Technology (Jidda). Besides, the Arab Industrial Development Organisation (AIDO) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) have been co-opted as members of the task force.

While the follow-up committee is to act as a ministerial level group for the executive committee of the OIC industries ministers' consultative meeting, the task force has been assigned the job of exploring avenues for industrial cooperation among Muslim states.

The first meeting of the above task force was convened by the OIC secretariat-general in Jidda last October at the expert level, and was chaired by Dr Aftab as a representative of the Pakistan federal industries minister.

Discussions at this meeting were of a general nature regarding ways and means of increasing economic cooperation among the OIC member-states.

The Jidda meeting assigned some specific tasks to some of the specialised OIC agencies which include the collection of data pertaining to the industrial sector and research on matters relevant to increased economic cooperation between Muslim states.

Experts, attending the task force meeting in Jidda, also agreed that one of the most meaningful steps which could be taken to further cooperation in the industrial sector was the undertaking of joint venture projects, and accordingly, it decided to set up an ad hoc working group to go into this question and formulate guidelines and modalities in this regard.

Dr Aftab said the deliberations of the ad hoc working group could not be publicised at this stage prior to the next March meeting of its parent body i.e. the "task force for industrial cooperation among Muslim countries."

However, he said 70 joint venture proposals, received earlier by the Islamic Economic Chamber had been considered by the ad hoc working group, and its recommendations in this regard would come up before the task force meeting next March.

He also said that the Jidda based Islamic Development Bank and the IEC had vital roles to play in the identification, funding and implementation of joint venture proposals. In some cases, the ad hoc working group had elicited more information regarding the above 70 joint venture proposals, and all these projects were to go before the forthcoming task force meeting, he added.

He said that in order to speed up all this preparatory work, the OIC secretariat-general had thought it fit to convene a meeting of the Islamic industries ministers' follow-up committee immediately after the task force session.

He said the follow-up committee meeting would take place in Islamabad on March 9-10.

The next meeting of the industries minister of OIC member-states would be held in Turkey sometime in 1984.

He said that after the concrete proposals for increased economic cooperation among Muslim countries had been processed, the Islamic foreign ministers would take a final decision on the entire matter.

Answering a query, Dr Aftab said that while joint venture projects already existed between Muslim countries, at present they were being undertaken outside the framework of the OIC.

The task force on industrial cooperation among Muslim countries and its ad hoc working group were trying to create a climate which would facilitate the whole process of launching joint ventures, he added.

To achieve this goal, he continued, the ad hoc working group had concentrated on preparing guidelines and modalities for the identification and implementation of joint venture projects in an organised and institutionalised manner.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER RECEIVES PRC ENVOY

GF140750 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 9

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 11: The ambassador of the People's Republic of China in Pakistan, Mr Wang Chuabin, called on Syed Fakr Imam, federal minister for local government and rural development, here today.

The ambassador remained with the minister for some time and discussed matters of mutual interest.

POLITICIAN EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER AFGHANS

GF140749 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 8

[Text] Mr Iqbal Haider, secretary-general of the defunct Qaumi Mahaz-Azadi, yesterday expressed his concern at the alleged involvement of the Afghan refugees in the country's internal affairs.

In a statement he also slated a defunct political party for "using the Afghan refugees for its political ends."

Mr Iqbal Haider pointed out that the Afghan refugees were in Pakistan purely on humanitarian grounds and they should not align themselves with the politics of the country.

He also said they should be referred to as "panah-guzeen" [refugees] and not "mohajreen" [emigrants] as they had sought temporary shelter.

THREE TRIBAL ELDERS RELEASED IN LANDIKOTAL

GF140746 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 12

[Text] Peshawar, Jan 11: Situation in Landikotal has returned to normal after the release of three tribal elders, held the other day on the pretext of their being involved in creating tension among the tribesmen.

These tribal elders include Haji Gulab Khan Shinwari, an ex-MPA [member of Parliament], Mr Hayat Khan Shinwari and Mr Nadar Khan Shinwari. Landikotal bazaar reopened after a closure of three days.

BALUCHISTAN DEVELOPMENT ALLOCATION DETAILED

GF140748 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 4

[Text] Quetta, Jan 11: A record amount of Rs 274 crore is being spent this year in Baluchistan for accelerating the pace of development and bringing this area at par with the developed parts of the country.

Reliable sources say that out of this amount Rs 148 crore are being spent through the federal government, while the remaining 126 crore by the provincial government.

An amount of 65 crore has been set apart in the provincial annual development programme. Of this 77 per cent would be utilised for 161 ongoing schemes and the remaining 23 per cent on 89 new projects.

The total number of the development projects thus stands at 250 of which 154 would be completed this year.

Of the 86 crore placed under the special development plan, Rs 24.5 crore would be spent on the power projects and another 61.5 crore on nine projects being implemented by the provincial government.

URANIUM DEPOSITS REPORTEDLY DISCOVERED

GF140744 Karachi DAWN in English 12 Jan 83 p 1

[Text] Dera Ismail Khan, Jan 11: Some rich deposits of uranium are reported to have been discovered in Dera Ismail Khan's surrounding areas.

PPI [Pakistan Press International] understands through highly reliable sources that the federal government is considering further coordination of exploration work in the area.

Some officials of an American company interested in uranium exploration are now on a visit to this area, it is learnt.

These reports were also confirmed by Prof. Akram Baig at a function at the Pakistan national centre here recently.

Mr Salim Saifullah Khan, provincial industries and finance minister, also referred to some very responsible sources who had tipped him about the availability of uranium in the area. The minister said the government was fully aware of its responsibilities and would take appropriate steps in this regard.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUE NO 1, 182

LD131831 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Communique No 1,182 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. In the past 24 hours, the combatants of Islam, while protecting their defensive positions on the country's southern and western fronts, opened fire on the enemy's infantry and armored units, concentrations and supply axes, obstructed the Iraqi troops' ground operations, and denied the Ba'thist mercenaries freedom of movement.

On the western fronts, exchanges of fire continued with the Meymak front witnessing more intense clashes. On the afore-mentioned front, one enemy fieldgun and one ammunition dump were set on fire and a number of Saddamist troops were killed.

On the Marivan front, our artillery units opened fire on enemy positions across the border and halted the fire of the Iraqi mercenaries' heavy weapons.

In the Qasr-e Shirin sector, enemy patrols sustained losses and fled as a result of our force's fire.

On the southern front, exchanges of heavy weapons fire continued along the entire [word indistinct] line and their intensity increased especially in the (Shalamcheh) region, (Zayd) post, Sharhani, and Zobeydeh. The powerful artillery of the Islamic army returned the enemy fire, levelled part of the enemy's positions and defensive lines, and inflicted losses and casualties on the Iraqi troops.

On the Abadan operational zone, the combatant units of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran opened fire on enemy troop concentrations across the Arvand Rud, halting enemy traffic and destroying five Iraqi foxholes and bunkers, three heavy machinegun positions, one observation post, one 106-mm fieldgun, and several weapon positions together with their occupants who were either killed or injured.

The city of Abadan yesterday was constantly shelled by the enemy's long-range weapons as a result of which a number of houses were destroyed and others were set ablaze.

[Signed] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

29 IRAQIS KILLED, WOUNDED IN BAKHTARAN FIGHTING

GF131711 Tehran IRNA in English 1650 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Bakhtaran, Jan 13 IRNA -- Some 29 aggressor Iraqis were killed or wounded during the battle operations between the two sides in the western fronts of Bakhtaran Province over the past 24 hours.

Also, the Islamic combatants maintained the upper hand in the fire exchanges in the western fronts of Nowsud, Qasr-e Shirin, Chogha Hammam and Muslim ibn 'Aqil theatre during the same time.

One 105-mm artillery piece, one munitions depot and several trenches of the enemy were destroyed while several Iraqi vehicles were disabled in these operations.

KORDESTAN AMNESTY URGED; MAJLIS SPEAKER CITED

LD140220 Tehran IRNA in English 1900 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Tehran, Jan 13 IRNA -- The first speaker of the open session of the Majlis this morning was the deputy from Mahabad, West Azarbayjan Province, Mohammad Aassim Saadati, who stressed importance of unity among Muslims of the world. Under such unity, he added, Muslims would be able to reach their objectives and take their own destiny into their own hands.

The Mahabad deputy who was elected in last December's Majlis by-elections, said that special attention should be paid to the needs of the Kurdish people and called on the government to declare a general amnesty in Kordestan area. In another part of his speech speaking about the needs of his constituency, Saadati said that all the damages done to the city of Mahabad should be repaired, people should be given compensation for the losses they have suffered and jobs should be created. He also called for complete implementation of the 8-point decree of Imam Khomeyni.

Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani received a group of visitors from Khorramabad, Lorestan Province, and members of the Basij Corps of Tehran, at the Majlis building this morning.

Addressing the visitors, the Majlis speaker referred to the role of the people and Basij members in continuity of the revolution. People have been the core of the Islamic revolution of Iran and Iran, in expelling the aggressor enemy forces, has relied on the people.

Continuing his remarks tribution of the people to the revolution, Rafsanjani said that people themselves have prevented the revolution from any deviation and have silenced the enemies of the revolution including the liberals, leftist elements and monafiqi [hypocrites]. Rafsanjani hailed the initiative of Imam Khomeyni in forming the 20 million member army and said that this army was the strong weapon of the revolution.

At the end of his speech, he praised resistance of inhabitants of Khorramabad which has been target of Iraqi attacks in the course of the Iraqi imposed war. Despite all these attacks the problems, people continued to support the combatants.

The session ended at noon and the next meeting is scheduled for next Sunday morning.

VOLUNTEERS SENT TO KORDESTAN FROM ARDABIL

GF131337 Ardabil Domestic Service in Azeri 1530 GMT 12 Jan 83

[Text] To achieve the complete establishment of the Islamic government in Kordestan, the ninth group of volunteers was sent [word indistinct] today from the Ardabil Gendarmerie headquarters to Kordestan to fight the counterrevolutionaries and the counterrevolutionary minigroups which are attached to the United States.

A sendoff ceremony for these volunteers was held this afternoon at the Ardabil Gendarmerie headquarters. In this ceremony, the fighters walked under the Koran and showed their appreciation for this holy book. They then sat in the cars and went to [word indistinct].

VILLAGES CLEARED OF 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES'

LD131946 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] According to a report from the Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters, which is the joint operations center of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and of the army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the brave combatants of the army of Islam, in the course of a series of coordinated and totally successful operations, in which they enjoyed divine blessings, managed to mop up a number of Kurdish villages.

In the course of these operations, which were carried out on five axes in Kordestan Province, the victorious army of Islam managed to take positions on these axes and to cleanse 23 villages from the filth of the elements attached to world arrogance. In the course of these operations, which ended last night, the combatants of Islam enjoyed the unstinting support of the Kurdish Muslim people of these regions.

In the course of these operations, a number of counterrevolutionaries attached to the East or West were killed or arrested and a quantity of arms and ammunition was seized by the fighters of Islam. Seven individuals who had been deceived by outlawed armed minigroups gave themselves up to the combatants of Islam and asked for a guarantee of safe conduct.

MKO SAYS '15 LACKEYS ANNIHILATED' IN KORDESTAN

GF131746 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Fifteen lackeys of Khomeyni's regime in Iranian Kordestan were annihilated. This report was part of a statement issued by the offices of the Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization [MKO] in Paris.

According to this statement, 10 guards were killed by mines planted at their Kordestan bases. Other offensive operations managed to secure the control of Mian-du ab Bukan road by the peshmarga. Five of the regime's agents were killed in Khuzestan as well. The MKO also stated that 'Abdolmajid (?Naqdi), member of Masjed Soleyman Committee responsible for setting up guard patrol units, was severely wounded in a clash with the Mojahedin.

MAJLIS SESSION DEBATES 'BRAIN DRAIN,' OIL SALES

GF111002 [Editorial Report] Tehran Domestic Service in Persian at 0436 GMT on 11 January begins live coverage of an open session of the Majlis. Reception is poor. After a recitation from the Koran, Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani announced the preagenda speakers, the first of whom if Rudbar Deputy Hoseynian, who extolls the achievements of the revolution and the eight-point decree of the imam, which is "a charter of hope for the oppressed."

The Khodabandeh deputy complains about the problems in his constituency such as power and water shortages. An unidentified deputy takes the floor next and lists rural problems.

The Majlis speaker then announces the day's agenda and the names of the deputies who will discuss the construction of paved roads in rural areas, oil supplies to the districts, the opening of more telecommunications centers in the villages, and more agricultural facilities.

Health facilities and the "brain drain" are heatedly discussed; an unnamed deputy suggests that instead of inviting "other" physicians, attempts should be made to bring Iranian physicians home, on the condition that they possess sound Islamic ideology.

The speakers then discuss the problem of manpower in various departments, particularly the Abadan refinery, in view of increased production.

Petroleum Minister Gharazi says the previous regime incurred losses due to the large number of American advisers while the hezbollahi nation has now rallied to the national cause and we do not have any acute manpower problems. He says that last year our sales were "300-115,000 barrels per day," adding: If we had not lowered our oil prices, Saudi Arabia would have captured the market with its reduced prices on its 11 million barrels of oil in the international market." He continues: "The real problem for the Petroleum Ministry is how to (?foil the schemes of) Saudi Arabia without jeopardizing the interests of the Iranian Republic. The anxiety we had was that if we reduced the prices a little according to our own policy, the Saudi authorities would try to undercut our market with still lower prices. We therefore had to fix our prices at (?$10-15)."

The session then talks about difficulties in transporting oil to rural districts in Iran.

In conclusion, the speaker announces names of absentees and the Majlis is adjourned for the day.

BRIEFS

BABOL GOVERNOR -- Brother Mohammad Reza Reyhanian has been appointed governor of Babol in an order by the governor general. He was a member of the Directorate of Vali-ye 'Asr No-Interest Loan Committee and was also in charge of the Babol Friday prayer headquarters. [Sari Domestic Service in Persian 1430 GMT 5 Jan 83 GF]